IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims now pending. This listing replaces all earlier versions and listings of the claims.

Claim 1 (currently amended): A data management system for managing data by appending meta data for a data search to managed data, comprising:

means for accepting a user's selection of the managed data to which the meta data is to be appended;

means for accepting the user's selection of the types of contents of the managed data;

means for ~~providing~~ changing candidates of meta data to be provided according to the [[types]] type selected by the user, the candidates to be appended as meta data being prepared in advance in correspondence with the types of contents of data to be managed;

means for accepting the user's selection of meta data to be appended to the selected data from the provided candidates of meta data; and

means for saving the selected data and the selected meta data in association with each other.

Claim 2 (currently amended): [[The]] A system according to claim 1, further comprising:

means for accepting input of a search condition used to search for the managed data; and

means for searching for the managed data associated with the search condition on the basis of the input search condition and the meta data.

Claim 3 (currently amended): [[The]] A system according to claim 1, wherein said means for accepting the user's selection of the data accepts selection of at least a portion of the managed data to identify sub-data, and said saving means saves the sub-data and the meta data in association with each other.

Claim 4 (currently amended): [[The]] A system according to claim 3, wherein the managed data is moving image data, and the sub-data is frame image data which forms the moving image data.

Claim 5 (currently amended): [[The]] A system according to claim 1, wherein the types of contents of data to be managed are defined for respective events in everyday life.

Claim 6 (currently amended): [[The]] A system according to claim 5, wherein said means for accepting the user's selection of the types of contents of the managed data accepts selection of the event, and said means for providing changing candidates of meta data provides changes the candidates of meta data to be provided according to associated with the selected event.

Claim 7 (currently amended): [[The]] A system according to claim 1, wherein the managed data is data of an image, and

said system further comprises means for displaying the image associated with the selected managed data and the candidates of meta data together.

Claim 8 (currently amended): [[The]] A system according to claim 1, wherein the managed data is at least one of image data and audio data, or a combination thereof.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A data management method for managing data by appending meta data for a data search to managed data, said method comprising the steps of:

the step of accepting a user's selection of the data to which the meta data is to be appended;

the step of accepting the user's selection of the types of contents of the managed data;

the step of providing changing candidates of meta data to be provided according to the [[types]] type selected by the user, the candidates to be appended as meta data being prepared in advance in correspondence with the types of contents of data to be managed;

the step of accepting the user's selection of meta data to be appended to the selected data from the provided candidates of meta data; and

the step of saving the selected data and the selected meta data in association with each other.

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Claim 10 (currently amended): A program, executing a data management method for, ~~upon~~ managing data by ~~individually~~ appending meta data for a data search to managed data, for making a computer function, said program comprising:

means for accepting a user's selection of the managed data to which the meta data is to be appended;

means for accepting the user's selection of the types of contents of the managed data;

means for ~~providing~~ changing candidates of meta data to be provided according to the [[types]] type selected by the user, the candidates to be appended as meta data being prepared in advance in correspondence with the types of contents of data to be managed;

means for accepting the user's selection of meta data to be appended to the selected data from the provided candidates of meta data; and

means for saving the selected data and the selected meta data in association with each other.

Claim 11 (currently amended): [[The]] A system according to claim 2, further comprising means for partially providing contents of the managed data found by search.

Claim 12 (currently amended): [[The]] A system according to claim 11, further comprising:

means for accepting a user's selection of data that provides contents thereof from the managed data found by search;

means for acquiring another data associated with the selected data; and

providing means for providing contents of the selected data and the other acquired data.

Claim 13 (currently amended): [[The]] A system according to claim 12, wherein the managed data is data of a moving image, and

said providing means provides by displaying a series of moving images consisting of a moving image of the selected data and a moving image of the other acquired data.

Claim 14 (currently amended): [[The]] A system according to claim 11, wherein the managed data is at least one of image data and audio data, or a combination thereof.

Claim 15 (currently amended): [[The]] A method according to claim 9, further comprising the steps of:

the step of accepting input of a search condition used to search for the managed data;

the step of searching for the managed data associated with the search condition on the basis of the input search condition and the meta data; and

the step of partially providing contents of the managed data found by search.

Claim 16 (currently amended): [[The]] A program according to claim 10,

further comprising:

means for accepting input of a search condition used to search for

the managed data;

means for searching for the managed data associated with the search

condition on the basis of the input search condition and the meta data; and

means for partially providing contents of the managed data found by

search.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A data management system for managing

data by appending meta data for a data search to data to be managed, comprising:

means for accepting a user's selection of the types of contents of the

data to be managed;

means for ~~providing~~ changing candidates of meta data to be

provided according to the [[types]] type selected by the user, the candidates to be appended

as meta data being prepared in advance in correspondence with the types of contents of

· data to be managed;

means for accepting the user's selection of meta data from the

provided candidates of meta data;

means for inputting the data to be managed to which the selected

meta data is appended after the user's selection of meta data; and

means for saving the selected meta data and the input data as

managed data in association with each other.

Claim 18 (currently amended): [[The]] A system according to claim 17, further comprising:

means for accepting input of a search condition used to search for the managed data;

means for searching for the managed data associated with the search condition on the basis of the input search condition and the meta data; and

means for partially providing contents of the managed data found by search.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A data management method for managing data by appending meta data for a data search to data to be managed, said method comprising the steps of:

the step of accepting a user's selection of the types of contents of the data to be managed;

the step of providing changing candidates of meta data to be provided according to the [[types]] type selected by the user, the candidates to be appended as meta data being prepared in advance in correspondence with the types of contents of data to be managed;

the step of accepting the user's selection of meta data from the provided candidates of meta data;

the step of inputting the data to be managed to which the selected meta data is appended after the user's selection of meta data; and

the step of saving the selected meta data and the input data as managed data in association with each other.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A program, executing a data management method for, upon managing data by appending meta data for a data search to data to be managed, for making a computer function, said program comprising:

means for accepting a user's selection of the types of contents of the data to be managed;

means for providing changing candidates of meta data to be provided according to the [[types]] type selected by the user, the candidates to be appended as meta data being prepared in advance in correspondence with the types of contents of data to be managed;

means for accepting the user's selection of meta data from the provided candidates of meta data;

means for inputting the data to be managed to which the selected meta data is appended after the user's selection of meta data; and

means for saving the selected meta data and the input data as managed data in association with each other.

Claim 21 (currently amended): [[The]] A system according to claim 17, wherein said means for accepting the user's selection of meta data accepts a plurality of meta data, and said means for saving the selected meta data and the input data saves meta data selected among the plurality of meta data by the user after the data to be managed are inputted and the input data as managed data in association with each other.

Claim 22 (currently amended): [[The]] A method according to claim 19, wherein said step of accepting the user's selection of meta data accepts a plurality of meta

data, and said step of saving the selected meta data and the input data saves meta data selected among the plurality of meta data by the user after the data to be managed are inputted and the input data as managed data in association with each other.

Claim 23 (currently amended): [[The]] A program according to claim 20, wherein said means for accepting the user's selection of meta data accepts a plurality of meta data, and said means for saving the selected meta data and the input data saves meta data selected among the plurality of meta data by the user after the data to be managed are inputted and the input data as managed data in association with each other.